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(54) Title: CATALYST AND PROCESS

(57) Abstract: The invention concerns an organometallic compound of formula RO-M(L¹)_x(L²)_y(L³)_z wherein M is a metal selected from titanium, zirconium, hafnium, iron (III), cobalt (III) or aluminium; L¹ and L² are each independently selected from a diketonate, an ester or amide of acetoacetic acid, a hydroxycarboxylic acid or ester thereof, R¹COO- where R¹ is substituted or unsubstituted C₅ - C₃₀ branched or linear alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl including polycyclic structures such as naphthyl or anthracyl, phosphate, phosphinate, phosphonate, siloxy or sulphonato, provided that when L¹ is a ligand which forms two covalent bonds with the metal atom, and x= 1 then y = 0; L³ is selected from substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, R²COO- where R² is a linear or branched C₆ - C₃₀ alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a polyoxyalkyl or hydroxyalkoxyalkyl group; R is alkyl or hydroxy-alkyl hydroxyalkoxyalkyl, or (hydroxy)polyoxyalkyl group, x, y and z are each either 0 or 1 (x+y+z) ≤ V-1, where V= the valency of the metal M. The invention further concerns compositions and processes for the manufacture of polyurethane articles using the organometallic compounds as catalysts to provide cured articles having a comparable performance to those produced using a commercial mercury-based catalyst.